United Nations E/ICEF/2014/P/L.16*

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
23 June 2014

Original: English

For action

United Nations Children's Fund
Executive Board
Second regular session 2014
9-12 September 2014
Item 5 (c) of the provisional agenda**

Extensions of ongoing country programmes***

Note by the secretariat

Summary

In accordance with Executive Board decision 2009/11, this note informs the Executive Board of the one-year extensions of the country programme for Iraq and of the common country programme for the United Republic of Tanzania, approved by the Executive Director.

The note further presents the reasons for the proposed two-year extension of the country programme for Botswana, a two-month extension, following two one-year extensions, for Mali, and a nine-month extension following a one two-year extension for Colombia. The Executive Board is requested to approve these programme extensions.

Draft decision

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the one-year extensions of the country programme for Iraq and of the common country programme for the United Republic of Tanzania, which were approved by the Executive Director, as indicated in table 1;

2. *Approves* the two-year extension of the country programme for Botswana, a two-month extension, following two one-year extensions, for Mali, and a nine-month extension following a one two-year extension for Colombia as presented in table 2.

* Double reissued for technical reasons on 3 September 2014.
** E/ICEF/2014/14.
*** Reissued for technical reasons on 18 August 2014; previously issued under the symbol E/ICEF/2014/P/L.17.

14-56525* (E) 050914

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Table 1
One-year extensions of ongoing country programmes approved by the Executive Director

UNICEF-assisted country programme	*Original programme period*	*Year approved for extension*	*Reasons for extension*
Iraq	2011-2014	2015	– In view of the humanitarian crisis in Iraq, in line with United Nations Funds and Programmes and as per the request from the Government of Iraq, a one-year extension of the country programme is requested.
United Republic of Tanzania	2011-2015	2016	– To align with the extended United Nations Development Assistance Plan (UNDAP) cycle as recommended by the regional United Nations Development Group team (UNDG). – To align the next UNDAP to national priorities of the Government of United Republic of Tanzania, in view of ongoing national initiatives, consultations regarding the post-2015 development agenda, and general elections in 2015.

Table 2
Extensions of country programmes for which the approval of the Executive Board is requested

UNICEF-assisted country programme	*Original programme period*	*Period proposed for extension*	*Reasons for extension*		
			In-country development	*United Nations harmonization*	*Implementation or other issues*
Botswana	2010-2014	2015-2016 *two-year extension*	To align the current country programme cycle with the current Botswana National Government plan ending in 2016.	The two-year extension of the cycle would harmonize with the current United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) and United Nations Programme Operation Plan cycle.	The programme extension would allow UNICEF to continue strengthening results through ongoing interventions.
Colombia	2008-2012	1 January 2015-30 September 2015 Nine-month extension, following a one two-year extension	The nine-month extension would allow the National Development Plan cycle and UNICEF country programme cycle to align.	The extension would allow UN agencies to better harmonize their respective country programmes, and the UNDAF, with the national planning cycle following the elections in May 2014.	Extension of the country programme will allow the continued implementation of ongoing UNICEF programmes.

UNICEF-assisted country programme	*Original programme period*	*Period proposed for extension*	*Reasons for extension*		
			In-country development	*United Nations harmonization*	*Implementation or other issues*
Mali	2008-2012	1 January 2015-28 February 2015 Two-month extension, following two one-year extensions	The extension would allow alignment of the UNICEF country programme with the UNDAF and the national Government plan, which are being jointly developed.	The extension would allow alignment with CPD submissions by UNFPA and UNDP.	The extension would ensure that implementation of the country programme can continue until approval of the new CPD.